

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please revise paragraphs [0047], [0048], and [0057] of Published Patent Application No. 2007/0092158 as follows:

[0047] First, a line segment extraction unit (22) of the CPU (2) extracts a line ~~segment~~ segment (41) from a line-shaped ~~image~~ object (30) in the image at a step (10). Although any optional methods may be employed to separate the region of the line-shaped ~~image-object~~ object (30) from the image, when, for example, a line-shaped ~~image-object object (30)~~ object (30) has a predetermined shape, the ~~line-segment~~ segment (41) may be extracted according to the shape.

[0048] Then, a line-shaped image elimination unit (23) enlarges the ~~line-segment~~ segment (41) obtained at the above step and removes the ~~line-segment~~ segment (41) from a portion in which at least a moving object (31) is included in the image (line segment image elimination step (11)). It is needless to say that a line-shaped image object may be eliminated from the entire image. The eliminated image can be stored in the memory (3).

[0057] Further, as shown in ~~Fig. 6~~ Fig. 5, the pixels (42) on the line segment (41) may be sequentially scanned, screen coordinates (44), (44), (45), (45) (in this case, four types of screen coordinates exist to a single pixel (42)) may be determined by adding and subtracting a value, which is obtained by adding 1 to a size (43) one half the line width, to and from the screen coordinate of the pixel (42), which is obtained each time the pixels (42) are scanned,

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in the respective directions of x- and y-directions, and the pixels of the screen coordinates may be used as the pixels to be scanned (32).